

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to FIGS. 1-6B. The sheets, which includes FIGS. 1-6B, replace the original sheets including FIGS. 1-6B.

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the amendments set forth above and the below remarks.

Claims 1-8 are currently pending in the subject application and stand rejected. Claims 1, 3, 4, 5 and 8 are herein amended to more particularly claim the subject matter of the present invention and claims 6 and 7 are deleted. No new matter is added by the amendments to claims 1, 3, 4, 5 and 8.

Election

Applicant herein cancels claims 9-14 in response to the previous Restriction Requirement.

Specification

Applicant amends the Specification as suggested by the Examiner to address the objections to the Specification.

Drawings

Applicant submits drawings to replace those on file. The Replacement drawings now designate Figures 1-6b as Prior Art.

Claim Objections

Claims 5, 7, and 8 are objected to by the Examiner as being unclear. Applicant believes the claim amendments set forth above address the Examiner's objections.

The Prior Art Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2 and 3 under U.S.C § 102(b) as being anticipated by Das, and rejected claims 1, 2 and 3 under U.S.C § 102(e) as being anticipated by Cooper. The

Examiner rejected claim 8 under U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Kimoto. The Examiner rejected claims 4-7 under U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cooper in view of Wakamatsu.

Applicant amends claims 1 and 8 to incorporate subject matter from canceled claims 6 and 7 as set forth above so as to render moot the rejections under Das and Kiwoto.

Claims 1 and 8 are amended to require a main probe and an auxiliary probe, the main probe including a body part, a connection part integrally formed with the lower end of the body part and a tip part integrally formed with the upper end of the body part, the auxiliary probe including a body part identical to the body part of the main probe and a connection part identical to the connection part of the probe.

Wakamatsu discloses in Figures 6-8 that first and second contact pins 2a and 2b, which respectively correspond to the main and auxiliary probes by the Examiner, are alternately arranged, the first and second contact pins being spaced apart from each other. Furthermore, the second contact pin 22 that corresponds to the auxiliary probe by the Examiner includes a projecting portion 2b-1 that corresponds to a tip part.

In contrast, amended claims 1 and 8 recite that the auxiliary probe is fixedly attached to one side of the main probe, the auxiliary probe including a body part identical to the body part of the main probe, the body part being attached to one side of the body part so that the body part is elastically tensioned or compressed when a tension force or a compression force is applied to the body part at the upper and lower ends thereof, thereby reinforcing the strength of the probe and a connection part identical to the connection part of the main probe, wherein the auxiliary probe is not provided with a tip part.

In view of the above, Applicant submits that independent claims 1 and 8 are patentable over Cooper and Wakamatsu, taken alone or in combination with each other. Since claims 2-5 depend from the amended claim 1, these are also patentable.

Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and objections of the claims 1-5 and 8 are respectfully requested. Applicant respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for these claims.

The Examiner is respectfully invited to telephone the undersigning attorney if there are any questions regarding this Response or this application.

Applicant does not acquiesce to any assertion made by the Examiner not specifically addressed herein.

The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 500845, including but not limited to, any charges for extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136.

Respectfully submitted,

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DALY, CROWLEY, MOFFORD & DURKEE, LLP

By: /Paul D. Durkee/
Paul D. Durkee
Reg. No. 41,003
Attorney for Applicant(s)
354A Turnpike Street - Suite 301A
Canton, MA 02021-2714
Tel.: (781) 401-9988, Ext. 21
Fax: (781) 401-9966
pdd@dc-m.com